

# THE WINCHESTER DEANERY

## PCC Briefing Note: Winchester Deanery Synod – October 2018 The Hall at Holy Trinity, Winchester GENEROSITY MATTERS

*After beginning with worship the Synod was hosted by Andrew Holder, Deanery Finance Chair who introduced Beauman Chong – Deanery Stewardship Coordinator. Beauman's role is to raise the profile of giving in the Deanery and to work with parishes and treasurers to engage with the help available.*

### **Gordon Randall – Diocesan Stewardship Advisor**

Gordon gave a presentation covering a number of key points, focussed around the principle that our giving is directly related to God's generosity to us; that God wants us to be more Christ-like – and Christ gave everything on the Cross; and that *giving* is an integral part of being a Disciple. The presentation, videos and all attachments can be found on the Winchester Deanery Website in the Resource Section/Giving ([www.winchesterdeanery.org.uk/giving](http://www.winchesterdeanery.org.uk/giving)) for links and attachments. He particularly recommended:

- 'Giving for Life' – an approach to how parishes can review their giving and plan for what is ahead. [www.parishresources.org.uk/givingforlife/](http://www.parishresources.org.uk/givingforlife/)
- Sharing the impact of generosity on our churches, vision, mission and ministry – i.e. what the money enables us to do. Idea: Take photos all through the year to share at APCMs
- Send a Thank You note which also shares what their generosity and the generosity of others has enabled: templates are available via the link above. Remind those in the higher tax bracket they can claim GiftAid
- Legacies. £55m annually is given across the Church of England through gifts in a will. Having a legacy policy enables people to see that the PCC takes seriously any legacy given to them. Idea: Tie your launch into 'Will Aid' week.
- Gift Aid. Keep doing it – including the Small Gift Donation Scheme which enables you to claim GiftAid on all small change.
- Parish Buying Scheme. The more we collectively use this, the better it will be to everyone.

### **Breakout Groups**

Four breakout groups were hosted by people with direct experience:

- **Stewardship** – Gordon Randall: *Communicate, communicate, communicate!* Gordon is happy to come to and talk to your Parishes and if you don't have a Stewardship Coordinator for your parish – it is worth identifying one who can be a direct link with Gordon and his team
- **Fundraising**: Andrew Holder – *putting on events for the wider community, having fun, building relationships and raising money from a wider pool, not just the immediate church family*: [www.parishresources.org.uk/resources-for-treasurers/funding/](http://www.parishresources.org.uk/resources-for-treasurers/funding/)
- **Setting up a 'Friends of' organisation** – Rolf Hawkins, East Winchester Benefice and The Friends of St Andrew's Chilcomb. The key is that the 'Friends' should only be 10-15% of the existing parishioners – and the 'Friends' should be people connected to the church but not necessarily current church goers (e.g. people who used to live in the parish; family of those buried in the churchyard; people who got married in the church; baptised; etc). It can most easily be a subsection of the PCC, or (more complicated), a charity in its own right.
- **Legacies** – Malcolm Lemon: There is excellent literature and a toolkit available here: [www.parishresources.org.uk/legacies/how-to-encourage-legacy-giving/](http://www.parishresources.org.uk/legacies/how-to-encourage-legacy-giving/)

### **Other business**

1. *Diocesan Synod House of Laity – there were no nominations at the time of the meeting for the two lay vacancies. Any potential new members (not necessarily on Deanery Synod) can be co-opted at any point.*
2. *It was proposed that the Deanery Subs remain at 2018 level. Everyone voted in favour.*
3. *ChristianAid at Christmas & Advent – a wealth of resources on the theme "Will you be a Peacemaker?" is available via their website – the aim being to bring tangible aspects of global peace, justice and the promise of God's coming Kingdom to worship and wider activities.* [www.christianaid.org.uk/christmas-appeal/christmas-appeal-church-resources](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/christmas-appeal/christmas-appeal-church-resources)

*Dates: The next Deanery Exploration Evening, on Social Media and Digital Communications, is on 14 November 7pm for 7.30pm in the Chapel at Winchester University. Please encourage anyone involved in this in your parishes to come along, to share their knowledge and learn new ideas.*

**2019 Synod Meetings:** The next meeting will be in February – dates to be advised.

**Deanery Synod Members: please pass any comments from your PCCs to the Deanery Team via Wendy at [winchesterdeanerysec@gmail.com](mailto:winchesterdeanerysec@gmail.com)**